

The following medical care does not require preauthorization by the Military Medical Support Office (MMSO):

- o The **initial** episode of Line of Duty (LOD) or Notice of Eligibility (NOE) medical care does not require preauthorization. However, in order for the claim to be paid, MMSO must receive verification from the member's unit that the care is a result of a LOD/NOE injury or illness.

- o Except in the case of an emergency, MMSO staff will not provide an authorization for follow up LOD/NOE medical care after the medical care has already been rendered (see paragraph below for exception). Reserve Component (RC) Medical Personnel that fail to obtain a preauthorization for follow up medical treatment must contact their respective Service Point of Contact for payment of the claim for medical care by first calling 1-888-647-6676.

- o RC Medical Personnel are not required to obtain preauthorization for **one outpatient visit** following the initial visit **IF** the visit is required for a medical evaluation to establish a diagnosis for the LOD/NOE and/or to develop a plan of care. RC Medical Personnel will obtain a MMSO preauthorization for Magnetic Resource Imaging (MRI), Positron Emission Tomography (PET), or other extensive tests needed to establish a diagnosis. However, simple x-rays obtained as part of an initial Orthopedic evaluation do not require preauthorization.

- o The plan of care must be preauthorized by MMSO before any further medical care will be authorized or paid. RC Medical Personnel will request further clarification when in doubt about whether a procedure or test requires preauthorization or is a TRICARE covered benefit.

- o MMSO does not authorize Military Treatment Facility (MTF) referred medical care or MTF provider orders for TRICARE to pay medical claims. The MTF staff should coordinate the preauthorization of care and the payment of medical claims with their designated regional TRICARE office. If the MTF is unable or unwilling to preauthorize civilian medical care or facilitate payment of claims for care that is MTF referred, the RC Medical Personnel should contact their respective SPOC for assistance.

If you have questions concerning preauthorization requirements, contact the MMSO Case Management Division staff at 1-888-647-6676.